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Security Council

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Letter dated 5 December 2017 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2017. The report, which was approved by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

I should be grateful if the present letter and the report were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Fode **Seck**
Chair
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan

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S/2017/1065

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017.

2. The Bureau consisted of Fode Seck (Senegal) as Chair and the representatives of Kazakhstan and Sweden as Vice-Chairs.

II. Background

3. By its resolution 2206 (2015), the Security Council established the Committee and imposed a travel ban and an asset freeze on individuals and entities designated by the Committee as engaging in a wide range of forms of behaviour that threatened the peace, security or stability of South Sudan. The Committee is tasked with, among other things, overseeing the implementation of the sanctions measures.

4. By the same resolution, the Security Council established a panel of five experts under the direction of the Committee. The Panel's mandate was renewed most recently in resolution 2353 (2017).

5. Further background information on the South Sudan sanctions regime can be found in previous annual reports of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

6. The Committee met six times in informal consultations, on 18 January, 21 and 29 March, 28 July, 6 October and 15 November, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures. The Committee also held joint informal consultations, on 10 November, with the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan and 1970 (2011) concerning Libya.

7. During the informal consultations held on 18 January, the Committee discussed the Chair's report of his visit to South Sudan, Ethiopia, the Sudan and Uganda from 10 to 19 December 2016.

8. During the informal consultations held on 21 March, the Committee received briefings from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict.

9. During the informal consultations held on 29 March, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on South Sudan on the Panel's final report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 (d) of resolution 2290 (2016) (S/2017/326), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

10. During the informal consultations held on 28 July, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the Panel's work programme.

11. During the informal consultations held on 6 October, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on the Panel's 120-day report (S/2017/789), submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2353 (2017).

12. During the joint informal consultations with the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya and pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan held on 10 November, the Committee heard briefings by the Panels of Experts on the Sudan, on Libya and on South Sudan and held interactive discussions, with a view to achieving a common approach on how best to prevent Darfuri armed groups in Libya and South Sudan from engaging in destabilizing activities.

13. During the informal consultations held on 15 November, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on South Sudan on the Panel's interim report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2353 (2017) (S/2017/979), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

14. Following each of the above-mentioned informal consultations and in accordance with paragraph 104 of the note by the President of the Security Council dated 30 August 2017 (S/2017/507), the Committee issued press releases containing brief summaries of the informal consultations.

15. On 2 February, the Committee sent a note verbale to all Member States inviting them to recommend qualified individuals to serve on the Panel of Experts.

16. On 25 April, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Senegal briefed the Security Council on behalf of the Chair of the Committee regarding the final report of the Panel of Experts (S/2017/326) and the Committee's activities (S/PV.7930).

17. The Committee sent 37 communications to 12 Member States and other stakeholders, with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

18. Exemptions to the asset freeze are contained in paragraphs 13 to 15 of resolution 2206 (2015), as reaffirmed in paragraph 1 of resolution 2353 (2017).

19. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraph 11 of resolution 2206 (2015), as reaffirmed in paragraph 1 of resolution 2353 (2017).

20. The Committee received no requests for exemptions to the measures.

V. Sanctions list

21. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraphs 6 to 8 of resolution 2206 (2015). The designation criteria were reaffirmed in paragraphs 8 to 10 of resolution 2290 (2016), which were in turn reaffirmed by paragraph 1 of resolution 2353 (2017). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

22. As at the end of the reporting period, there were six individuals on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Panel of Experts

23. The final report of the Panel of Experts, submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 (d) of resolution 2290 (2016), was issued as a document of the Security Council on 13 April (S/2017/326).

24. On 11 July, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2353 (2017) on 24 May, the Secretary-General appointed five individuals to serve on the Panel, with expertise in regional issues, armed groups, natural resources finance, humanitarian affairs and arms (see S/2017/594). The mandate of the Panel expires on 30 June 2018.

25. On 19 September, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2353 (2017), which reaffirmed paragraph 12 (e) of resolution 2290 (2016), the Panel provided its 120-day report to the Security Council (S/2017/780).

26. The Panel conducted visits to Belgium, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Norway, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

27. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel, through the Secretariat, sent 63 letters to Member States, the Committee and several international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

28. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and the members of the Committee. Advisory support was also provided to Member States to promote understanding of the sanctions regime and facilitate the implementation of the sanctions measures. Induction briefings were also provided to incoming members of the Council to familiarize them with the specific issues relevant to the sanctions regime.

29. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 11 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for membership in the roster of experts. In addition, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 2 February notifying them of upcoming vacancies on the Panel of Experts and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements.

30. The Division continued to provide support to the Panel of Experts, conducting an induction for newly appointed members and assisting in the preparation of the Panel's final report, submitted in April, and its interim report, submitted in September.

31. The Panel of Experts participated in the fifth annual inter-panel coordination workshop, held in New York on 5 and 6 December, organized by the Secretariat. On 7 and 8 December, the Division, in cooperation with United Nations system partners, conducted a workshop on investigative interview techniques for 10 experts from sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels. One member of the Panel participated therein.

32. The Secretariat continued to update and maintain the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and the Committee-specific sanctions lists in the six official languages and the three technical formats. Furthermore, the Secretariat implemented improvements concerning the effective utilization of and access to sanctions lists, including through the creation of links within list entries, as appropriate, to INTERPOL–United Nations Security Council Special Notices, as well as the development in English of the data model approved in 2011 by the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, as requested by the Council in paragraph 48 of resolution 2253 (2015).